THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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THE NEWS TO-DAY.

Collision Between the Gascogne and the Switzerland.

THE CROWN PRINCE IMPROVES.

A London Incendiary Sentenced to Twenty Years' Penal Servitude.

ARE HUGHES-HALLETT AND SELWYN TO SIT IN THE HOUSE TOGETHER?

A Pseudo Heiress.

BLIZZARD VICTIMS.

Death of the Late President Garfield's Mother.

A SERIES OF SHIPPING DISASTERS.

Notes from Algiers.

A DOLEFUL DARKEY.

Anglo-American Preachers in Paris.

THE FRANCO-ITALIAN INCIDENT SETTLED.

Municipal Balls and Municipal Councillors.

SOCIETY AND ART IN PARIS.

Yachting and Sporting Items.

SELECTIONS FOR NICE RACES.

Mr. Seaton Wins the Great Pigeon Contest at Monte Carlo.

ALGIERS OLD AND NEW.

The City of the Deys Becoming More Popular Every Year.

THE ARTISTIC CASBAH.

A Quaint Native Town and a Charming Foreign Suburb.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

ALGIERS, Jan. 19, 1888.—We are enjoying a brilliant season this year. The oldest inhabitant cannot remember a better.

From the place du Gouvernement at the one end to the charming heights of Upper Mustapha at the other, the hotels are well patronized, and wealthy late comers will not find many vacant villas to choose from. Algiers is, in fact, becoming more popular every year.

The reason for this is not to be found, as some people assert, in the advent of numbers of terror-stricken visitors whose only object is to elude the danger of earthquake on the Riviera. It is easily traced to the improved facilities of access from Marseilles, to the growth of a number of first class hotels, and, above all, to the increasing realization of the fact that within easy reach of London and Paris a climate infinitely more trustworthy than that of the Alpes Maritimes court is to be found.

A CHANGE OF SCENE.

Not only does the jaded brain worker or the sun-seeking invalid find a steady, clear, warm atmosphere, equivalent to that of Paris in the month of May, but he enjoys the additional advantage of a thorough change of scene. In spite of the immense sums spent by the French government on beautifying Algiers, from a European point of view, the City of Deys is still in Africa, and of this one is reminded at every step.

The symmetrical arcades running along the upper quay and built upon a long row of vast wholesale warehouses facing the harbor, form a kind of rue de Rivoli-by-the-Sea, and are a pleasant shelter from the burning rays of the afternoon sun in the hot weather.

But the boulevard de la République, as this magnificent street is now called, and the place du Gouvernement, with its rather trivial equestrian statue of the Duc d'Orleans, have not invaded the Casbah hill, which is still exclusively occupied by Algiers the African.

A QUAINT CITY.

The native Haussman who, in some forgotten century, planned the town of Algiers, must have been a man of simple expedients. His object was evidently to render the streets inaccessible to any would be invader of Algerine hearths and homes. Few of the thoroughfares, which all run at a tremendously steep gradient, would allow of four men marching abreast, while the side alleys, all built in steps, barely admit of one person passing another.

A couple of thousand men well provided with stones or half bricks would easily hold the Casbah against an army unprovided with artillery, and of course the aforesaid Haussmann had no occasion to consider any such contingency as shot and shell.

A WATER COLOR HADES.

From an artistic point of view no more delightful field for a quick, ready pencil could be imagined than the hilly, tortuous streets of old Algiers. Nothing more elaborate than pencil work should indeed be attempted, as if the artist attempts water color with the accompanying paraphernalia of an easel and a stool, he is at once surrounded by an unruly swarm of tiny, diabolical street Arabs, who make his life a burden and his picture an impossibility.

The more he hits out with a stick or a dog whip at these human mosquitoes—appropriately called *Teffels* in their own tongue—the greater their number becomes, until finally the artist rushes away in disgust followed by the derisive shouts of his victorious persecutors.

A SKETCH BOOK PARADISE.

A quick eye, however, and a ready pencil would fill a sketch book in an afternoon with charming bits of life and character and light and shade. Here a glimpse of brilliant sunshine through a dark tunnel of overhanging Moorish houses; there a swarthy Arab squatting on his haunches in his little open shop embroidering on leather with gold and silver wire. Here the courtyard of an old Algerine house, with its arched balcony, its trickling fountain and graceful palms; there a group of chattering native beauties, or presumed beauties, for one can only see their eyes, discussing the latest fashions in baggy muslin trousers, the newest thing in honeyed sweetmeats, or the favorite Moorish masher of the day.

It is almost with reluctance that one leaves the quaint old Casbah for the stately residences of modern civilization at Upper Mustapha.

THE FOREIGN RESIDENTS.

The English colony—or, more correctly speaking, the British colony, for most of the leading inhabitants are Scotch—has monopolized almost all the villas on the beautiful slope rising from the sea to the laurel and myrtle covered heights known as the "Bois de Boulogne."

Among the most pleasing residences is that of Sir Peter Coats, who recently presented Mustapha with an artistic little Scotch church; the Villa Royer, occupied by Sir Alexander Mackenzie; the Villa Kingston, by Mr. Wormald; the Campagne Belvedere, by Dr. Thomson; the Djenan Ali Raïs, by Mr. Macleay, the well known owner of the "Jullanar" yacht; the Villa Bir el Droujil, by Lady and Miss de Hoghton; the Djenan es Saouda, by Major Bloomfield; the Villa des Vallons, by Mrs. Fraser; and the Campagne Montfeld, by the Prince and Princess Windisch Graetz.

Miss Skinner, of Boston, worthily represents the American element in her charming Villa of Mustapha, and among distinguished foreigners is the Baron Brantsen von der Zyp, chamberlain to the King of Holland, whose wife is an American.

GREGARIOUS BRITISHERS.

The experiment has been tried this season for the first time of forming an English club, but accessible to other nationalities, and is apparently a great success. Certainly no club ever had more desirable quarters than the charming villa where the Mustapha residents enjoy their English billiard table, their Havana cigars, their brandy and soda and all the other luxuries of Pall Malldom, plus a clear sky and a balmy atmosphere. Needless to say that a lawn tennis club also flourishes at Mustapha.

VIGNEAU AND THE JUDGES.

The Court of Cassation met with closed doors yesterday to hear Councillor Merville's report on the case of M. Vigneau, the Juge d'Instruction. Although nothing positive is known as to what took place, it has leaked out that the culpability of M. Vigneau was declared to be much less serious than was pretended at the time when he was so ignominiously checked in his investigation into the Wilson scandals. None the less M. Vigneau has been ordered to appear before the Supreme Court on January 30.

TO ENGLISH AND AMERICANS.

A concert for the benefit of the English and American schools in Paris will be given at the Salle Erard on February 9, under the patronage of Lord Lytton and Mr. McLane. Among the patronesses are Lady Lytton, Mrs. McLane, Countess Alfred de Chabannes, Countess de Montsaulnin, Viscountess de Courval, Baroness Cloquet, Mrs. Villiers, Mrs. Hely Bowes, Mrs. Campbell-Clarke, Mrs. Howard Gill, Mme. Jeancourt and Mrs. Freemantle.

AN UNPUBLISHED PREFACE.

The *Figaro* to-day publishes a curious preface which M. Jules Simon has written for a coming work on "Les Misères du Siècle." The author holds that most of the wretchedness prevalent among the French poor might be done away with if they would take to a more solid diet and live in healthier rooms.

"As a spiritualist I have broken many a lance in my youth," says M. Simon, "in favor of good mattresses and good beefsteaks. I did not succeed very well, but that must have been my fault. The cause is a good one and it must be made to win. It will be if our young folk can be persuaded to render this important service to their country and humanity.

"We need a good army, and to have one, we must not wait till our children are at the gates of the barracks.

"I sometimes think it is a pity to be a man of brain. I should like to be a workman, a healthy, capable and thinking workman. A man's a man under such conditions."

A STEAMER AND LIVES LOST.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

PLYMOUTH, Jan. 21, 1888.—The Bristol Steam Navigation Company's iron steamer Constance, 563 tons register, was wrecked off the Sound this morning, and three of her crew were drowned. She left Antwerp on the morning of the 19th with a general cargo for Plymouth and Bristol. At 3 A. M. to-day, in a dense fog, the vessel ran on the Stag Rock, inside the Mew Stone entrance to Plymouth Sound. Two boats were launched, in which the captain and crew lay alongside for two hours, when they were obliged to abandon one boat and pulled ashore in the starboard lifeboat. They landed at the Great Western Docks. Of the crew, consisting of fifteen men, all told, the captain, chief officer, second officer, the carpenter and eight others were saved. Edward Seavell, quartermaster; Thomas William Rees, fireman; and William Wylds, seaman, all three belonging to Bristol, were drowned. The Constance is full of water, and is likely to become a total wreck. The captain has gone off to the wreck in a steam tender.

STEAMERS COLLIDE.

The Gascogne and the Switzerland Run Foul of Each Other.

CONFLICTING REPORTS.

The French Vessel Comes Off Best, and Is to Continue Her Voyage.

[BY COMMERCIAL CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

NEW YORK, Jan. 21, 1888.

When outward bound at about noon, the steamships La Gascogne and the Switzerland came into collision about halfway between Bedloe's Island, now known as Liberty Island, and Robbin's Reef Light.

The vessels appear to have been steering the same course, passing Liberty Island, heading for Fort Wadsworth, about one hundred yards apart. La Gascogne, steaming fifteen knots, was passing the Switzerland, the latter making twelve knots at this point, when the bow of the Switzerland was abreast of the mainmast of the Gascogne.

According to the officers and pilot of the French ship, the Switzerland suddenly steered to port, she being nearest the Jersey shore, and struck the Gascogne on her starboard quarter.

According to the officers of the Red Star steamship, the Gascogne attempted to cross the Switzerland's bows and thus brought about the collision.

The Switzerland was considerably damaged and had to return to dock for repairs, which will necessitate discharging the cargo. The Gascogne dropped anchor off quarantine and will try to cross the bar in continuation of her voyage at 2 A. M.

If there is not enough water then, she will get to sea at about noon on Sunday.

The damage to the Gascogne was trifling.

Among the cabin passengers on the Gascogne are B. H. Lieutenant Buckingham, American Navy, Albert Crane, Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Deering, A. Guerin, Mr. and Mrs. Gille, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Hall, G. W. Hill, Dr. Max Herman, H. Mead, Dr. R. Mayer, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Park, L. H. Reynolds, Jr., Marmaduke Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Heriot and children, Mr. and Mrs. J. Thompson, Jr., and W. L. Wilson. There were no cabin passengers on the Switzerland, but she carried 100 in the steerage, who will be forwarded on the Westernland next week.

LATER.—The actual damage done to the Gascogne was slight. The lifeboat on the starboard quarter was smashed so as to be rendered useless. Several stanchions and about twenty feet of rail on the promenade deck were carried away; her two upper plates were bent in about four inches, but the vessel's strong steel deck prevented serious injury.

The Switzerland's port bow was stove in by her anchor, her nose was opened out and her stem was torn away several feet under water. Her forward compartment filled with water. The gap was covered by sails and she steamed slowly back to her dock.

The Gascogne is not making any water and seems but little damaged.

It is impossible at present to say who is to blame for the accident. The officers of the Gascogne declare that the Switzerland ran into the French ship on the port quarter. The officers of the Antwerp boat say the Gascogne attempted to cross their bows.

A LIVERPOOL STEAMER WRECKED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

QUEENSTOWN, Jan. 21, 1888.—The White Star liner Republic, which arrived here this morning, brought news of the wreck in the China seas during a typhoon on December 19 of the passenger steamship Vortigern, of Liverpool. The typhoon raged with such violence that the ship's decks were burst in, and she filled. Eleven passengers and nine of the crew were drowned, but the remainder saved themselves in boats.

VAN ZANDT'S VICTORY.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

NICE, Jan. 21, 1888.—Marie Van Zandt opened at the municipal opera house last night in "Lakmé." A crowded and enthusiastic audience welcomed her back after an absence of two years and a half from the French stage. All the fashionable world was present, and there was a brilliant array of beautiful women and toilettes. On the fall of the curtain there were loud cries for Delibes, to which he did not respond; and after the duo in the first act and the Hindoo "Legend of the Paria" there was long and loud applause, and cries of "Van Zandt" and "Brava! Brava!"

The Emperor and Empress of Brazil telegraphed regrets at being unable to attend. Mrs. A. C. Barney, Miss Platt, Prince Poniatowski, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Smith, Admiral Greer, the Grand Duke and Duchess of Mecklemburg-Schwerin, Baroness von Hoffman, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Winslow, Prince Louis de Bourbon, Captain Percival, Mrs. Charles Clarke, Mr. Burghy and General von Kodolitsch were among those present.

TOWN TALK.

Will Hughes-Hallett and Selwyn Sit Side by Side?

TARDY ORANGE BLOSSOMS.

An Abduction Ends at the Altar, and All Is Well.

[BY THE HERALD'S SPECIAL WIRE.]

LONDON, Jan. 21, 1888.

A rather delicate and awkward question is to be raised at the meeting of Parliament in February. Colonel Hughes-Hallett and Captain Selwyn are both members and have seats on the conservative benches. Captain Selwyn, so it is said, intends asking the honourable Members of the House of Commons, whether they consider it becoming for a man who stands in the relation to his sister that Colonel Hughes-Hallett does to Miss Selwyn to sit beside her brother. If they do not, who is to leave the House? That one of the two must go is the position taken by Captain Selwyn, and the point is, shall it be himself, against whom nothing can be said, or shall it be Colonel Hughes-Hallett, who has openly transgressed one of the first social laws. Hence a decidedly awkward position for honorable legislators.

AN AWKWARD FIX.

If Colonel Hughes-Hallett is retained, and Captain Selwyn is forced to leave, the reflection upon the present state of social morals is, to say the least, interesting, if not peculiar. If, on the other hand, Captain Selwyn remains upon the only ground he feels to be possible—namely, the dismissal of Hughes-Hallett—the latter's constituents enter upon the scene, and may prove troublesome Their question will be:—

"Is it legal to dispel upon strictly private grounds a member elected by public votes?"

The matter promises to be a slight variation from the monotony of the Irish question and the unemployed, but whether more easy of settlement remains to be seen.

AWFULLY SEEDY.

Social life is still struggling with atmospheric temperature, but the weather stands a good chance of winning the day. Women not loath to amuse themselves are forced to give up agreeable dinner parties because the fog has given them "bad throats," and even the men own up to being C. D. on account of the weather. These two capital letters "C. D." stand as representatives of every ill which human flesh is heir to in the London fashionable world.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

Lord Salisbury, in his letter accepting Lord Charles Beresford's resignation, states that the estimates in dispute were carefully considered by Mr. Smith, Mr. Goschen and Lord George Hamilton, and that those three members of the Cabinet are opposed to the views of Lord Charles, and, therefore, it is with regret that he (Lord Salisbury) cannot see any way out of the difficulty but to accept His Lordship's resignation. It is stated that it was sought by Lord George Hamilton and Mr. Goschen to cut down the estimates for the intelligence branch of the navy by £1,000, that is, by one-eighth, the reason given being that the army intelligence Branch should be the guide to the expenditure of the naval intelligence branch. Lord Charles has written to his constituents in East Marylebone, asking them to arrange a day when he can address them on the subject.

A PSEUDO HEIRESS.

An extraordinary case was heard before the Bolton magistrates to-day. A married woman named Margaret Ann Prince, residing in an out district of the town, was charged with obtaining money under false pretences. It was stated that for some time past she had been representing that she was an heiress entitled to a fortune of £1,700,000, and she was now charged with having obtained from various people sums to the amount of over £2,000, upon the strength of these representations. Over one hundred letters were produced. They were presumed to come from Hackey Hall, Jedburgh, and referred to the supposed fortune. The prisoner represented that when she got her fortune she would give not cent. per cent., but twenty, thirty and forty thousand pounds, according to the sum borrowed. A remand was asked for pending inquiries and was granted.

THE STRAND INCENDIARISM.

The trial of Leon Serne, thirty-eight, and John Henry Goldfinch, thirty, barbers, for feloniously and maliciously setting fire to No. 274 Strand, on September 18 last, persons being therein at the time, was resumed this morning at the Central Criminal Court before Mr. Justice Charles, who commenced his summing up this morning. During the whole of it Serne displayed much restlessness. Whilst the Judge was going through the evidence of Kate Serne, relating the distressing loss of the two boys Serne bowed his head between his hands and wept silently. Goldfinch throughout preserved a calm and unmoved demeanor. At the conclusion of the Judge's summing up, Serne, with His Lordship's permission, made some observations. He thanked his "dear Lordship" most gratefully for allowing him to speak. The jury retired at a quarter past twelve, and returned into Court after an absence of fifty minutes with a verdict of guilty against Serne and not guilty against Goldfinch. Previous convictions were then found against Serne, and His Lordship sentenced him to penal servitude for twenty years.

ABDUCTION AND MATRIMONY.

A short time ago the HERALD gave an account of the trial at Birmingham of an ex-schoolmaster named George S. Brockington for a liaison with Miss Helena Gertrude Bryan. He was charged under the Criminal Law Amendment Act with abducting her from the care of her brother. When the case was heard Miss Bryan admitted going to the defendant's house of her own free will and passing the night there. They then went to Wolverhampton, where they stayed three nights. However, the case broke down. When the young lady appeared in the witness box the bench arrived at the conclusion that the defendant "had reasonable ground to believe that the girl was older than was the case." The defendant's wife appeared in court and spoke bitterly of the treatment she had received on being abandoned with her seven children.

HOOTING AND COMPLICATIONS.

On defendant leaving the court after the dismissal of the charge he was hooted by a large crowd and a most exciting scene was witnessed. Since then the case has assumed a new and romantic aspect. Mrs. Brockington petitioned for a divorce and a decree *nisi* was made absolute on November 29, and Mrs. Brockington and six of her children left shortly afterwards for Canada.

AND THEY LIVED HAPPILY.

Yesterday Brockington and Miss Bryan were married in a church at Haselor near, Birmingham. The ceremony was performed by a brother of the gentleman to whom Miss Bryan, at the time of the abduction, was supposed to be engaged to be married, and the bride was given away by her brother, who figured as the prosecutor in the criminal proceedings which were taken against the bridegroom. She has only just past the maximum age named in the Criminal Law Amendment Act. The affair created the more excitement on account of the esteem in which Miss Bryan has been held in the neighborhood. She is a young girl of remarkable personal attractions, and of an exceedingly amiable disposition. There was a hostile demonstration as the party was leaving the church.

UNPLEASANT MUSIC.

The bridegroom was hooted, and the charivari of a pot and kettle band caused a good deal of excitement, in the midst of which the party drove off towards Henley. The "cheeky" husband sent a letter to the *Birmingham Mail* which is a column long and might be named his epithalamium, in the course of which he says:—

"I was bound to a woman who broke up home after home, ruined my children, and tried to drive me from my profession; in fact, made life a burden grievous to be borne. After six years of total separation—in reality a mutually agreed upon divorce—I found a noble and devoted girl who was willing to face that worse that death to a sensitive nature—public shame—for my sake. Looking back, although I knew the risk of failure was infinitesimal I still have doubts as to whether I was justified in asking for or allowing such a tremendous sacrifice. To any man reading this I say 'put yourself in my place, and then judge.' Had I been a weak man I should have taken to evil courses or committed suicide. Being a strong and resourceful one, I freed myself by the only means which the law left open to me from the soul stifling bondage in which I was held. 'Desperate diseases require desperate remedies.' If my reader be a lady, I say examine well your own heart, and see if no chord throbs responsive to the rare devotion of that noble girl whose renunciation of home and friends for the sake of the man whom she loved, though as sacred an act of marriage as ever performed, was only to lead, as she well knew beforehand, to suffering and disgrace till the solemnization of the ceremony of to-day. A world in arms could not rob me of the content I now experience, but in the midst of my rejoicing I deplore that I should have been the cause of a grave public scandal. Still, I say with Milton, speaking of himself in a precisely similar case, 'If the law make not a timely provision, let the law, as reason is, bear the censure of the consequences.'"

This letter, which seems to put the writer in a metaphorical pillory, is perhaps the first defence of its kind on amatory record. It is a psychological curiosity, and he might be handed over to Zola or Belot as the hero of a fresh novel.

A SEA TRAGEDY?

[BY THE HERALD'S SPECIAL WIRE.]

LONDON, Jan. 21, 1888.—At ten o'clock last night a large vessel was observed off Salcombe burning lights of distress. With great promptitude the various lifeboats stationed at Hope Bolt Head and Salcombe got out to sea, but on proceeding to the place from which the signals were directed no trace of the vessel could be found. There was, however, a strong smell of petroleum in the vicinity, and the impression is that she has foundered with all hands. The lifeboats pulled about till about two o'clock this morning, and the coastguardsmen kept a good lookout, but it is thought she must have gone down.

THE OTHER SIDE.

The Late President's Mother Gone.

A FAILURE AT WALLACK'S.

Further Startling Accounts of That Awful Blizzard.

[BY COMMERCIAL CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

NEW YORK, Jan. 21, 1888.

Mrs. Elizabeth Garfield, *née* Ballou, the mother of President Garfield, died at five o'clock this morning at Mentor, where she lived with the late President's widow. She was born in 1801 in New Hampshire. Her parents were homespun, poverty-stricken people who in the early part of the century harrowed a subsistence out of the barren soil of New England. In 1830 the family moved to Ohio, then the American Eldorado. There Miss Ballou married Abram Garfield, to whom she bore four children.

A PLUCKY WIDOW.

When James, who brought distinction to his family, was about a year old, his father was killed while trying to save his log cabin from a forest fire. Mrs. Garfield was left alone to support her family. This she did by selling to the country people Jean cloth, spun at her own wheel during the moments she could snatch from the care of her children and from the work on the poor farm that yielded just enough food to keep the family alive. Her life was full of toil and worry until her son reached manhood.

She said, when she was told that her son James had been elected President of the United States, that that was ample recompense for all her years of trouble. During Mr. Garfield's brief occupancy of the White House, his aged mother always held the place of honor at the table.

"L'ABBÉ CONSTANTIN" A FAILURE AT WALLACK'S.

Dramatized from Halévy's novel by MM. Cremieux and Pierre Decourcelle, "L'Abbé Constantin" was presented by Mr. Henry Abbey's company at Wallack's last night, after having undergone an adaptation by Mr. Clinton Stuart. It utterly failed to interest the most brilliant audience seen at a first night this season. No violent dislike for the play was displayed. It was simply received with lazy indifference. Occasionally a lackadaisical sort of handclap was given, but it was generally sandwiched in with yawns. The play was badly acted by all the performers, with the single exception of John Gilbert, who acted the title role delightfully.

Mrs. Abbey (Florence Gerard) as Cynthia Ray, the sister of Mrs. Scott, only proved once more the error Mr. Abbey made in permitting domestic loyalty to regulate the casting of an important production. Miss Rose Coghlan quitted the company the night before last in a huff because she was not given the rôle assigned to Mr. Abbey's wife.

THE BLIZZARD'S VICTIMS.

A despatch just received from Nebraska City, Nebraska, states that Judge Kinney, of the Sioux Indian Agency, of Dakota, has arrived there after a terrible journey of nine days through the scenes of the recent blizzard. He brought with him a startling story of the awful horror of its work, showing that over 1,000 persons had perished in the blasts. In Bonhomme County alone 160 persons were frozen to death within three days.

MRS. CLEVELAND AT HOME.

A GALAXY OF UNMARRIED AND MARRIED BEAUTY.

[BY COMMERCIAL CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

HERALD BUREAU,
CORNER 15TH & G STREETS, N. W.,
WASHINGTON, Jan. 21, 1888.

At Mrs. Cleveland's public reception this afternoon the hostess was assisted by a bevy of pretty girls, among whom were the Misses Vilas, Garland, Medill, Green and Storrs, the last being a visitor at the White House. Among the married women who assisted Mrs. Cleveland were the wives of Speaker Carlisle, Justice Matthews, Senator McPherson and Governor Green.

THE CROWN PRINCE IMPROVING.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

SAN REMO, Jan. 21, 1888.—The weather being warm, the Crown Prince, for the first time for a week, drove out and took a walk this morning. His Imperial Highness was accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Saxe-Meiningen and Prince Henry of Prussia, and attended by Herr von Lincker, Major von Kessel and Dr. Mark Hovell.

YACHT MOVEMENTS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

MALTA, Jan. 21, 1888.—The British steam yacht Golden Fleece, owner Mr. P. A. Ralli, arrived here to-day from New York.

Dans un café littéraire du quartier Latin:

— Garçon, apportez-moi ce qu'il faut pour écrire.

— Ce qu'il faut pour écrire, monsieur, c'est de l'esprit.

"Algiers Old and New." New York Herald [European Edition], 22 Jan. 1888, p. [1]. International Herald Tribune Historical Archive, 1887-2013, link.gale.com/apps/doc/EWBQFB501491423/IHTO?u=purdue_main&sid=bookmark-IHTO. Accessed 6 Feb. 2024.